

Charles Bartlett

Foreign affairs healing?

Jimmy Carter, although pleased that his foreign policy positions are at last getting some attention, plainly does not want to run any risks of stirring new controversies.

In fact, Carter's inclinations and strategy are combining to make him part of the healing process which is causing some foreign ambassadors to believe the United States has begun to 'recreate its foreign policy consensus. The dissidence and disarray that promised to prevail until the inauguration next January are fading into a tentative state of harmony.

In recent days the treaty with Spain has floated through the Senate. The new Select Committee on Intelligence is confirming a new deputy director of the CIA without much fuss. Members in both chambers kept their composure through the Italian elections. The generosity toward poor nations is restrained, but isolationism is not taking hold.

This is quite a change from the hectic months in which Congress had the bit in its teeth and was pursuing its will with little concern for the damage it did to intelligence operations, the NATO alliance, the rapport with the Soviet Union

or world confidence in American commitments.

The struggle for the privilege of conducting American foreign policy has subsided largely because the Democrats became aware that its protraction would damage them at the polls.

The danger to the Democrats was that voters would begin to believe they were taking the Soviet threat more lightly than circumstances warrant. In venting indignation at intelligence excesses or attempting to prune the defense budget, they discovered they were vulnerable to the public's perception that the Cold War may not be over.

So the specialists who help to write the Democratic platform and Carter's speeches are expounding a more consistent, centrist view of foreign policy than most of what was earlier heard from the 94th Congress. They need to level some attacks to keep up their end of the game, so they assail the personal eccentricities of Henry Kissinger's diplomacy without real thrusts at his policy objectives.

The fragile harmony may stem in some part from a lull in the rain of controversial events. A new SALT agreement, which does not seem imminent, could bring

old divisions to a new boil. Serious bloodshed in Rhodesia could polarize public sentiment. A sudden need to increase the level of support for any of the repressive regimes with which this country is allied would spark a shrill debate.

But Carter's campaign will do more to blur than exacerbate the latent divisions if events do not intrude on it. Most Democrats are being extremely pragmatic. Carter was, for example, hailed on Capitol Hill by the respected Senate Majority Leader, Mike Mansfield, even though he had just declaimed his disagreement with one of the senator's key aims, a reduction in the number of U.S. troops in Europe.

His proposal to reduce the 41,000 soldiers stationed in South Korea raises an interesting possibility. Carter is challenging the Republicans' reluctance to be critical of the Park regime's repressions and many Democrats talk with growing intensity of their concern with the curtailed human rights in some friendly countries.

This could be the first note of a Carter administration effort to develop a more selective system of alliances.

July 1, 1976

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

S 11355

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF E. HENRY KNOCHE
TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Mr. INOUE. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate go into executive session to consider the nomination of Mr. E. Henry Knoche.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the Senate will now go into executive session.

Mr. INOUE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Will the Senator withhold. The Senator is entitled to be heard. The Senate is not in order.

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I wish to yield to my distinguished colleague from Mississippi, the chairman of the Armed Services Committee.

Mr. STENNIS. Mr. President, if I may make a statement, this nomination here was originally referred to the Senate Armed Services Committee. I am going to ask unanimous consent in a moment with reference to the committee's discharge, but I want to refer now, Mr. President, to a memorandum of understanding between the chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, dated today, July 1, 1976. It is concurred in by the Senator from South Carolina and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. BAKER).

Now, Mr. President, this is an effort on the part of those concerned to work out a working paper between those two committees so that with reference to matters where one needs intelligence from the other there can be a free exchange as well as covering of the matters in which both are interested. It will speak for itself.

I am going to ask unanimous consent that this be printed in the RECORD at this point. It is signed by each of the chairmen.

There being no objection, the memorandum was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE SELECT COM-
MITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE AND THE CHAIR-
MAN OF THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COM-
MITTEE

In all matters of concern to both the Senate Armed Services Committee and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, the Chairman, members, staffs of the two Committees shall make every effort to assist and facilitate the work of the two Committees.

In legislative matters relating to intelligence the procedures and responsibilities set forth in S. Res. 400 will be followed. Both Committees will make every effort to assure that the U.S. Intelligence Community supplies all intelligence information requested by either Committee. In addition, both Committees will cooperate to preserve the right of either Committee to call witnesses from the U.S. Intelligence Community, obtain appropriate information and hold hearings on

intelligence matters necessary to the work of either Committee.

Where there are questions of joint concern between the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and the Senate Armed Services Committee, they will be promptly made a matter of consultation and resolution between the Chairmen of the two Committees, the full Committees, and the Chiefs of Staffs of both Committees as may be appropriate.

JOHN C. STENNIS,
Chairman, Senate Armed Services
Committee.

DANIEL K. INOUE,
Chairman, Senate Select Committee
on Intelligence.

Mr. STENNIS. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Armed Services Committee be discharged from further consideration of this nomination and the Senate proceed to consider it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Nomination of E. Henry Knoche, of Virginia, to be Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, reported earlier today from the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I am pleased to report to the Senate that the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence considered the nomination of Mr. Knoche, conducted hearings exceeding 7 hours, and at the conclusion thereof came forth with the unanimous decision to recommend his approval as the new Deputy Director of the CIA.

Mr. Knoche has been a career employee of the Agency for 23 years. His specialty has been in the analytical field. The entire committee feels this is a great indication because, as of this moment, if there is any weakness in the CIA, it is in the Analysis Department.

We look forward to great things coming from Mr. Knoche. We wish him the best. We are pleased to see that we have a fine civil servant assisting us in our intelligence gathering activities.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the nomination is considered and confirmed.

NOMINATION OF THOMAS J.
HOUSER TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE
OFFICE OF TELECOMMUNICA-
TIONS POLICY

Mr. PASTORE. Mr. President, there is a Thomas J. Houser nomination at the desk, and I ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The second assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Thomas J. Houser, of Illinois, to be Director of the Office of Telecommunications Policy.

Mr. PASTORE. Mr. Houser served at the pleasure of the President. It is his wish to have him as an adviser. There is not much more can be said except he was